REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 1 - 5 and 7 - 24 have been amended. Thus, claims 1 - 5 and 7 - 24 are pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

II. THE OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

The Examiner has indicated that Figure 1 of the current application should be labeled as prior art. (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 2). Figure 1 shows a process control system which implements the present invention. In particular, Figure 1 shows a system as recited in claim 15, which includes a host PC for loading a process control system and at least one target apparatus connected to the host PC. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Figure 1 should not be labeled as prior art and the objection should be withdrawn.

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1 - 5 and 7 - 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as incomplete for omitting essential steps. (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 3).

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. Claim 1 recites a method for automatic modeling of a process control system which includes a plurality of steps, including a step whereby "a list of all windows opened during a current operation as well as their attributes are stored as an operating session, to thereby restore a state of the elements when loading the process control system again." The plurality of steps recited in claim 1 comprise the method for

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modeling. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the recitation of claim 1 clearly recites all necessary steps. Thus, the rejection of claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom (2 - 5 and 7 - 13) should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 recites a step whereby "a list of all windows opened during a current operation as well as their attributes as an operating session, the attributes including at least one of a position and a communication status indicating one of an online status and an offline status of the user interface of the input window, to restore a state of the elements when loading the process control system again." Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 14 also be withdrawn for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner asserts that it is unclear how the communications links are mapped to distinct nodes.

A communication link describes a 1:1 correlation between an existing device which forms part of a network and a corresponding node inside the project. For each node inside the project, exactly one communication link exists by means of which the connection to the real device can be provided (i.e., established). In other words, each existing device is represented by a node and the communication link can be used for connecting the node to the device. The specification provides clear support for this view. (See Specification, p. 3, lines 10 - 11; p. 10, lines 10 - 19). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the recitation of claim 5 is complete.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner asserts that the "conventional interface methods" recited in claim 8 are unclear.

Conventional interface methods include, for example, the API (application programming interface) of Microsoft Windows and the SUS (single UNIX specification) of Austin group. It is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art would be familiar with such interface methods and, therefore, the recitation of claim 8 is complete.

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Claims 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner asserts that the "frame application" recited in claims 20 and 21 are unclear.

"Frame application" provides for an integration of further software components by means of standardized interfaces, similar to add-in (e.g., plug-in) technologies. Examples of frame applications known in the art include PACTware, SMARTVISION and Fieldcare, which have FDT-interfaces. The specification supports this view by clearly describing the use of add-ins. (See Specification, p. 5 lines 7 - 9; p. 8, line 15 - p. 10, line 8). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the recitations of claim 20 and 21 are complete.

Based on the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully requested that all of the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

IV.   THE 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 15 - 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,102,958 to Meystel et al. ("Meystel"). (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 5).

Meystel describes a process control system that determines optimal trajectories using multiresolutional analysis of acquired data. (See Meystel, Abstract). The system includes a plurality of subsystems, each including one or more operational modules. (Id. at col. 9, lines 35 - 47). Various subsystems acquire and organize input based information, determine functional relationships of the information, and generate control commands to physically control, modify or alter the operation of a plant or process. (Id.).

Claim 15 recites "a list of all windows opened during operation as well as their attributes as an operating session being automatically restored during reloading of the process control system."

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In contrast, Meystel does not mention or suggest in any way that an operating session is automatically restored. The subsystems described by Meystel merely control the process during normal operation thereof. (Id. at col. 9, lines 35 - 47). No mention or suggestion is made that the process can be made automatically restorable, nor is there any indication whatsoever that an automatic restorable may be conditioned on a reloading of a process control system. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Meystel neither discloses nor suggests "a list of all windows opened during operation as well as their attributes as an operating session being automatically restored during reloading of the process control system," as recited in claim 15. Because claims 16 - 24 depend from, and, therefore include the limitations of claim 15, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable.

V. THE 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1 - 5 and 8 - 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Dynasim ("Dymola Dynamic Modeling Laboratory User's Manual") in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0149628 to Smith et al. ("Smith"). (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 6).

Smith describes a method and apparatus for positioning a moveable item at an indicated location within a three-dimensional space viewed under a microscope. (See Smith, ¶ [0028]). According to Smith, a variety of window arrangements are possible for presenting a user interface to an operator, including a control window in conjunction with an image window. (Id. at ¶ [0190]).

Claims 1 and 14 recite "whereby the input windows for setting and monitoring the target apparatus provided by the elements in the project serve for at least one of displaying values measured by the target apparatus, diagnosis of the target apparatus and parameterizing of the target apparatus."

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The Examiner cites a portion of Dynasim which discloses the simulation of pendulum movement to purportedly teach this recitation. (See Dynasim, pp. 36 and 37). However, it is respectfully submitted that Dynasim neither discloses nor suggest the presentation of measured values. Dynasim only teaches simulation and not measurement. It is respectfully submitted that Dynasim does not show or suggest any of the measurement steps recited in claim 1. Dynasim is directed towards a simulation software, not a measurement software as would be required by claims 1 and 14, which relate to a modeling of a process control system for determining measured values, such as filling levels (e.g., a measurement software and a process control system utilizing such a measurement software). It is also respectfully submitted that Smith does not cure the deficiencies of Dynasim and that neither Dynasim nor Smith, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest "whereby the input windows for setting and monitoring the target apparatus provided by the elements in the project serve for at least one of displaying values measured by the target apparatus, diagnosis of the target apparatus and parameterizing of the target apparatus," as recited in claims 1 and 14. Because claims 2 - 5 and 8 - 13 depend from, and, therefore include the limitations of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Dynasim in view Smith and further in view of Kim ("A Two-Stage Modeling and Simulation Process for Web-Based Modeling and Simulation"). (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 7).

Kim relates to web-based modeling and simulation that utilizes a two-stage translation process from one markup language to another. (See Kim, Abstract). It is respectfully submitted that Kim does not cure the above described deficiencies of Dynasim and Smith. In particular, Kim relates to simulation rather than measurement. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that neither Dynasim, nor Smith nor Kim, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest "whereby the input windows for setting and monitoring the target apparatus provided by the elements in the project serve for at least one of displaying values measured by the target apparatus, diagnosis of the target apparatus and parameterizing of the target apparatus," as recited in claim 1. Because

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claim 7 depends from and includes the limitations of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is allowable.

Claims 15 - 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Meystel in view of Dynasim and further in view Smith. (See 4/4/07 Office Action, ¶ 8).
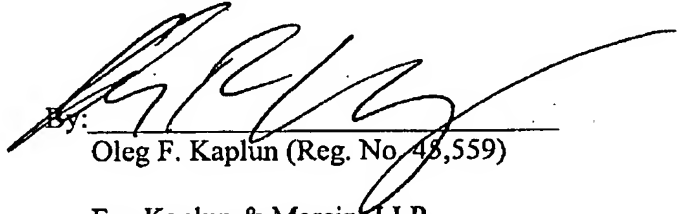
As discussed above, Dynasim does not relate to the determination of measured values. Thus, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine Dynasim with Meystel. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that neither Meystel, nor Dynasmi nor Smith, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest "whereby the input windows for setting and monitoring the target apparatus provided by the elements in the project serve for at least one of displaying values measured.by the target apparatus, diagnosis of the target apparatus and parameterizing of the target apparatus," as recited in claim 15. Because claims 16 - 24 depend from, and, therefore include the limitations of claim 15, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, and an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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